

# American Fencing



**DR. PAUL T. MAKLER**  
**President, AFLA**

Official Publication of the Amateur Fencers League of America

# AMERICAN FENCING

Official Organ of the American Fencers League of America

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## Thanks and Welcome

With this first issue of the 1961-62 AFLA season we thank Donald S. Thompson for his four years of leadership and welcome our new President, Dr. Paul T. Makler.

The past four years have seen an increase in fencing activities throughout the country and the emergence of young talented fencers to the top rank for the first time in our post-war period. The League expanded through new Divisions in hitherto untapped areas. Sectional Championships increased in size and importance, and the National Championships were held alternately in New York and Los Angeles, thus enabling a greater portion of our fencers to profit from this important tournament. Mr. Thompson's greatest responsibility during this period, however, was the sudden and unprecedented growth in our international activities. His first task upon assuming office was to host the 1958 World Championships in Philadelphia. The following year the Pan American Championships were held in Chicago, and 1960 was of course Olympic year. In his fourth and last year we held a major international tournament at the New York AC, sent a sabre team to Poland and were represented in the World Championships in Italy.

The presidency of the AFLA is of course a great honor but few fencers realize the considerable expenditure of time and personal funds that the position entails. The League's

growth and increased activity during Mr. Thompson's administration are a tribute to him. Our thanks must also go to Mrs. Thompson for her patience and understanding during these past years.

Our new president impresses us with his thoroughness and imagination. On September 7th Dr. Makler outlined to the Board of Governors a most ambitious program. We believe he will be a strong and demanding leader. Mistakes may be made and undoubtedly there will be criticisms, but this is the price a dynamic leader must pay. With patience and flexibility Dr. Makler could guide the AFLA to impressive new heights and his efforts deserve the wholehearted support of all of us.

Jose R. de Capriles

## NEW DIVISION

The Board of Governors has issued a charter to the North Dakota Division, with its main fencing center at Fargo.

## PERSONALS

Congratulations to the Irwin Bernsteins for twins Barbara Ann and Ruth Allyn born August 14, 1961.

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE

The achievements of the AFLA in the past few years are a source of great satisfaction to all of us and are a tribute to the League and to its leadership. Now at the beginning of a new fencing year, I would like to indicate a few of the concerns to which the League must address itself in the immediate future.

At the international level, our participation will continue to grow. A U.S. team must compete in the 1962 World Championships at Buenos Aires. A training camp for the international squad has been obtained and will begin to function in 1962. An integrated program has been established whereby international competitions will be regarded as training events for the 1964 Olympiad and it is expected that this will improve our performance in Tokyo.

Nationally, our most pressing problems are concerned with communications and membership. We are organizing a directory of clubs to indicate where and when one may fence in the United States. Your cooperation will be most helpful.

In conjunction with other agencies we are trying to establish standards and certification of fencing teachers. One of our major problems is to make it possible to train fencing masters, give them official recognition and enable them to go to cities where fencing masters are needed.

A manual of procedure for directors of electrical events is being prepared in order to standardize the investigation of malfunctioning equipment. It is believed this will expedite the conduct of competitions.

The classification system is being reviewed.

Preparations are being made to issue a new Rules Book following publication by the F.I.E. of its new book late in 1962.

We are investigating the feasibility of establishing the AFLA as a non-profit corporation.

At the divisional level, our greatest problem is to increase membership and at the same time to improve the state of American fencing.

In order to increase our activities we must have more personnel and more money, and the two can become available by increased AFLA membership. Only a small fraction of American fencers presently belong to the League. This can and must be corrected. In

addition, many sports enthusiasts could be induced to become Associate members of the AFLA simply as a gesture of support for an Olympic sport. By the time you read this, a full-scale membership drive will be underway. Its success depends on all of us and will permit expansion of League activities in many important directions. May I personally urge that each of us enlist a friend or two as an Associate member of the AFLA and cooperate with his Division Chairman and Secretary in the local membership drive now in progress.

Dr. Paul T. Makler

### AFLA Committees

President Paul Makler has made the following appointments for the 1961-62 season:

**Executive:** Dr. Paul Makler, chairman; Dr. Daniel Bukantz, Dernel Every, Ralph Goldstein, Roger Jones, Allan Kwartler, Fred Linkmeyer, Leo Sobel, Donald Thompson.

**Rules:** Roger Jones, chairman; Jose de Capriles, Maxwell Garrett, William Latzko, Fred Linkmeyer, Stanley Sieja, Edmond Zeisig.

**Rules Book:** Donald Thompson, chairman; Jose de Capriles, Miguel de Capriles, Roger Jones, William Latzko.

**Constitutional:** Alan Ruben, chairman; Jose de Capriles, Miguel de Capriles.

**Reinstatement:** Austin Prokop, chairman; David Rice, Robert Witte.

**Classification:** Abram Cohen, chairman; Jack Baird, Dan Edwards, Melvin Fishman, Danny Tannehill.

**Auditing:** Norman Lewis, James Strauch.

**Electrical Equipment:** Edwin Purdy, chairman; James Castello, Michael Greenwald, Franklin Jones, Eugene Kurtz, Vincent Pauley, Paul Reyes, Leon Wortman.

**Certificate of Merit:** Edwin Richards, chairman; Daniel Lyons, Anthony Orsi.

**AAU Delegates:** Dernel Every, voting member; Ralph Goldstein.

**Pentathlon Delegate:** Col. G. M. Heiss.

**International Selections:** Dr. Paul Makler, chairman; Jack Baker, Warren Dow, Ralph Goldstein, Eugene Hamori, Allan Kwartler.

**Organizing 1962 Nationals:** Lawrence Olvin, chairman.

**Transportation:** Al White, chairman.

**Fund Raising:** Evelyn Terhune, chairman; Robert Blum, Leo Sobel.

**Hall of Fame & Archives:** Dr. James Flynn, chairman.

## A NEW POINT IN AN OLD ART

by Michael Alaux

The new epee point is required in all events after January 1, 1962. The reason given for the change is that the former point could pierce the mesh of the mask. Actually there was a serious accident of that nature a few years ago, but many more have been caused by blades broken on the attack.

Now we face the problem of a new point whose edge cutting actions resemble those of the punch press used in steel production to test the resistance of metal... While giving lessons I, personally, have felt the penetrating power of this new point. This is of some concern, and raises other questions.

Has the point been tested against the mesh of the mask? Is the change a real improvement? Might it not be better to require a stronger mesh for the mask and forbid the use of rusty masks? Does this point's shape reduce the force of penetration through the material of the jacket?

We must hopefully assume that the FIE commission has made all the tests possible and the change is in the best interests of the fencers' protection. If this is so, all electrical blades will have to be modified because the actual thread at the top of the blade will not permit the use of the new point.

The true answer lies in better fencing. Coaches are asked to teach their men how to really fence epee instead of allowing them to use their arm and sword as a lance and the strip as a running track. This advice is important and valid. Unfortunately aesthetics and technique do not appear to be of any importance nowadays. We seem to want winners more than fencers. As long as we do not care how a person fences provided that he wins, we will find that this sport is done superficially at the expense of technique and of better results in the future.

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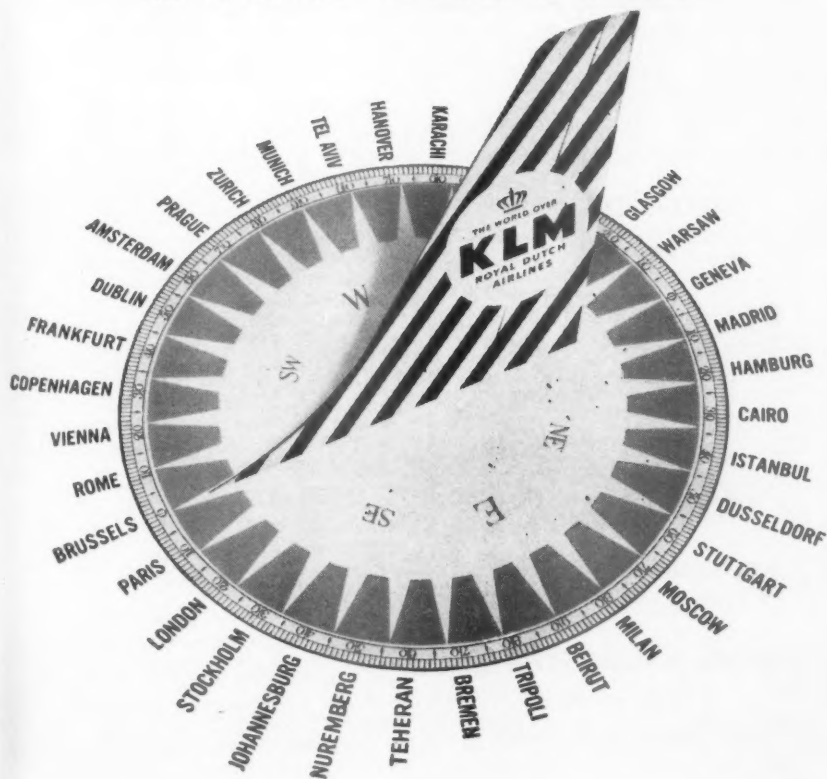
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## JUNIOR OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

### Metropolitan

The following young men are selected for the 1961-62 Junior Olympic Fencing Squad in the N. Y. Metropolitan area of the AFLA. They are receiving special instruction and training at the Salle Santelli, NYAC, Fencers Club, Columbia and NYU and have shown great improvement.

Joel Alexander, Mark Berger, Richard Berke, Bill Birmes, Robert Cote, Joseph Giovanniello, Richard Gross, Howard Harmetz, Richard Holzman, Quayle Johnson, Thomas Kalfa, Peter Pike, Paul Reyes, Jr., Kemosh Russell, Frank Russo, Bruno Santonocito, Thomas Schoenwandt, Donald Walleufels, Steve Weinstein, Charles Wertheimer, Jr., Howard Williams.

The committee wishes to thank the clubs and especially the coaches who have given their time this past season: Michel Alaux, Hugo Castello, Irving DeKoff, Odon Niederkirchner and George Santelli.

### Northern California

The Committee selected the following as the first Jr. Olympic team members from this area, as a result of the Ross-Atkins tournament for high school boys and girls. The selectees will continue training with their present high school coaches, but will receive supplementary instruction and training from selected fencing masters at the various local clubs.

**Girls:** Frances Gerlach, Gwenn Holland, Cheryl Miller, Cynthia Rylander, Ernestine Williams.

**Boys:** Michael Biernoff, Carlos Ciudad-Real, Wayne Collins, Julian Flores, Frank Frediani, Stuart Funke-d'Egnuff, William Lindo, James McDonald, Michael Small, Yoshiya Takeuchi, John Wiley.

Walita Koenig

### Michigan

The Michigan High School Championship was held at the Salle de Tuscan FC and attracted 34 entries from 13 different schools.

The AFLA boys' team trophy went to Bloomfield Hills HS which also won the first three individual places. Don Aprahamian, who placed first, was the outstanding fencer of the meet and received a one-year free membership to the Salle de Tuscan FC with an opportunity to train was Mastro Danosi. Second went to Bill Merrill and third to Jack Aprahamian.

The girls' team trophy was won by Taylor Center. The individual medals went to: 1. Katherine Fekete (Taylor); 2. Mary McGarrigle (Bloomfield Hills); 3. Susan Fekete (Taylor). No decision has as yet been made as to which girl will receive the one year membership.

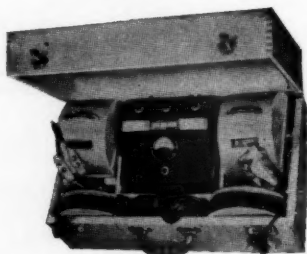
James Campoli

### CANADA vs. U.S.

The annual team match held at the Canadian National Exposition in Toronto was limited to foil and was won by the U.S. 10/6. (Kwartler 4/0, Richards 3/1, Davis 3/1, Zombolas 0/4; Schwende 2/2, Widmaier 2/2, Andru 1/3, Simo 1/3)

The Ontario Fencers Association were, as usual, wonderful hosts.

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## NATIONAL RANKINGS 1961-62

### FOIL

1. Lawrence Anastasi, Salle Csiszar, Phila.
2. Edwin Richards, New York AC, New Eng.
3. Martin Davis, Salle Csiszar, Phila.
4. Ralph Spinella, New York AC, Conn.
5. John Mooney, New York AC, Metro.
6. Anthony Zombolas, Salle Calvert, Ill.
7. Albert Davis, Unattached, So. Calif.
8. Frank Anger, Princeton U., N.J.
9. David Micahnik, Salle Csiszar, Phila.  
(Silvio Giolito, New York AC, Metro.)
10. (Harold Goldsmith, Fencers Club, So. Calif.  
(Lawrence Silverman, Salle Calvert, Ill.)

**Insufficient data\***: Albert Axelrod, Herbert Cohen, Gene Glazer, Joseph Paletta, Dr. Daniel Bukantz, Byron Krieger, Allan Kwartler.

### WOMEN

1. Janice Lee Romary, LA F. Acad., So. Calif.
2. Tommy Angell, Halberstadt SF, No. Calif.
3. Harriet King, Salle Lucia, So. Calif.
4. Paulette Singelakis, Paterson State, N.J.
5. Maxine Mitchell, LAFC, So. Calif.
6. Denise O'Connor, Unatt., New Jersey
7. Alice Gerakin, Faulkner SF, So. Calif.
8. Bonnie Linkmeyer, Faulkner SF, So. Calif.
9. Bernice Filerman, Salle de Nord, So. Calif.  
(Pat Bernhard, Salle de Nord, So. Calif.)
10. (Joy Despars, LAFC, So. Calif.  
Vivienne Sokol, Fencers Club, Metropolitan

**Insufficient data\***: Louise Dyer, Judy Goodrich, Julia Schoeck.

### EPEE

1. Lt. Robert Beck, U.S. Navy, Md.
2. Frank Anger, Princeton U., N.J.
3. Regis King, New York AC, Metro.
4. Richard Stoll, Pentathlon, Gulf Coast
5. David Micahnik, Salle Csiszar, Phila.
6. Steve Mutschenbacher, Pannonia AC, No. Calif.
7. Ralph Spinella, New York AC, Conn.
8. Lawrence Anastasi, Salle Csiszar, Phila.
9. Dieter Von Oppen, Salle Calvert, Ill.  
(Michael Alexander, New York AC, Metro.)
10. (Alan Jackson, Pentathlon, Gulf Coast  
(Jay Powell, New York AC, Conn.)

**Insufficient data\***: William Andre, Fred Duncan, Paul Levy, James Margolis, Richard Pew.

\*Ranked last year, did not compete in 1961 Nationals.

### SABRE

1. Daniel Magay, Pannonia AC, No. Calif.
2. Eugene Hamori, Salle Csiszar, Phila.
3. Helmut Resch, Austria, No. Calif.
4. George Twardokens, New York AC, Metro.
5. Edwin Richards, New York AC, New Eng.
6. Chaba Pallaghy, New York AC, Metro.
7. Laszlo Pongo, New York AC, L.I.
8. Alex Orban, Pannonia AC, No. Calif.
9. August Witt, Unattached, New Eng.  
(Gerard Biagini, Pannonia AC, No. Calif.)
10. (Michael Dasaro, New York AC, Metro.  
(William Goering, de Tuscan, Mich.)

**Insufficient data\***: Robert Blum, Richard Dyer, Allan Kwartler, Dr. Tibor Nyilas, Tomas Orley, George Worth.

## CONNECTICUT TROPHY 1960-61

The Connecticut Trophy was won by the Southern California Division for the 1960-61 season. An impressive number of competitors in a large number of competitions, plus high membership, contributed to their being awarded the trophy. The final standings are as follows:

**Number of Members**: 1. Southern California; 2. Philadelphia; 3. Connecticut; 4. Maryland; 5. Gulf Coast.

**Increase in Membership (Percent)**: 1. Connecticut; 2. Maryland; 3. Oklahoma; 4. Central Florida; 5. Southwest Ohio.

**Number of Competitions**: 1. Southern California; 2. Gulf Coast; 3. New England; 4. Philadelphia; 5. Central Florida, Maryland, Wisconsin.

**Number of Competitors**: 1. Southern California; 2. Philadelphia; 3. Gulf Coast; 4. Maryland; 5. New England.

**Standing at National Headquarters**: 1. Philadelphia; 2. Gulf Coast; 3. Southwest Ohio; 4. Oklahoma; 5. Southern California.

**TOTALS**: 1. Southern California; 2. Philadelphia; 3. Gulf Coast; 4. Maryland; 5. Connecticut.

**Note**: Under current interpretation of the rules for this trophy the Metropolitan Division is ineligible.



## ON ELECTRICAL FOIL

by Richard F. Oles

Coach of Johns Hopkins University

The electrical foil has been with us for some time now and I think it time we pause long enough to give some constructive criticism of the change being wrought in the foil game itself.

No one can deny that the electrical system has brought with it a marked change in the style and tactics of foil fencing. This change, however, is not at all like the change that took place when epee was electrified. While it is true that today's epeeists take more risks and care less about a double hit than perhaps they should, yet the principle of epee—that time alone is the deciding factor—was then, is now, and will be the same, whether the bout is fenced with ink or machine, and regardless of the number of touches. But—and this is the crux of the problem—with the electrical foil we are changing its fundamental principle; we are gradually substituting the epee principle of time for the foil principle of right-of-way, which is something quite different.



### CHAMPIONSHIP EQUIPMENT

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Is this good? I think not. First, and foremost, it destroys the foil as a weapon: without right-of-way, foil becomes epee with a limited target. While this may or may not be desirable in itself, what is the use of having two weapons with identical styles? To carry this line of reasoning even further, why not fence sabre without right-of-way? Second, it is unfair to us to require our beginning fencers to parry (in lessons) and then pull the rug out from under them in competition. If we're going to fence epee and call it foil, at least let's be honest about it, discard right-of-way completely, and stop calling it foil! Third, we are losing too many veteran fencers and coaches, something we cannot afford to do. The veteran fencer, faced with the choice of either adapting to a style he doesn't like or losing, retires from competition; the coach, faced with either teaching a style which to him is all wrong or watching his team lose, quits coaching. And who replaces them? A crop of young pigstickers whose only thought is remise, remise, remise. I certainly am not against modernization and progress—far from it! But to me, this is degeneration.

What is wrong? Let me say immediately that I do not blame the electrical apparatus: the machine was created by man, not vice versa. Rather I would lay the blame squarely at the feet of those of our officials who have defaulted in favor of the machine and who let it make their decisions for them. It's the easiest thing in the world to sit back and watch the lights instead of the action, but it shows irresponsibility and a couldn't-care-less attitude that is deplorable.

What can be done? In my opinion the following things are necessary:

1. **We must return to the traditional concept of right-of-way.** The simple attack has priority over the stophit, the immediate riposte over the remise. The stophit or remise, to be valid, must land clearly before the final movement of the attack or riposte has begun. We must favor the fencer who has followed the orderly sequence of attack-parry-riposte; the fencer who departs from this sequence must be made to realize that he does so at his own risk.

2. **We must give primary concern to following the action,** relegating the lights to a supplementary role. In connection with this, it should be clearly understood that, even though the machine may indicate Fencer A's stophit landing a split-second before Fencer B's attack, that A was wrong because he was obligated to parry and did not do so.



3. **We must not be afraid to make no decision in doubtful cases;** it is unfair to do otherwise. A good example of this is the question of the riposte vs. the remise—when the machine shows a double hit and the director cannot decide whether one of them was the result of an attack or a quick remise.

4. **We cannot, in this particular situation, afford to care what the rest of the fencing world does.** On the one hand, it is imperative that we keep abreast of the times; on the other, we **cannot** follow blindly without stopping to see whether what we're doing is really progress or is, in fact, a backward step. The choice is simple: either we want to keep the foil principle of right-of-way intact, or we don't; if we do, we cannot say, "Well, they're doing such-and-such in Europe, therefore we have to do it here too!"

*Ed. Note— This is an indictment of local officials and coaches rather than a criticism of the electric foil. The heavy point and whippy blade of electric foil impose some limitations on the finer classical foil actions but good technique and tactics, combined with speed and accuracy, are still the earmarks of a champion. Any good coach will work towards such goals and certainly fencers such as D'Oriola, Jdanovitch, Axelrod, Magnon and Midler in world competition and Axelrod, Bukantz, Glazer and Jan Romary in the U.S. have not discarded technique in favor of "pig sticking". The electrical weapon has magnified the importance of having good officials. The "solutions" posed by Mr. Oles are applied by every good foil director here and abroad. The same unhappy situation would exist in nonelectrical competitions if the director is not able to follow and analyze the fencing phrase. The problem created by poor officials is not the fault of the machine and can only be corrected by educating more and better officials and by training fencers to make clear-cut positive actions.*

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AMERICAN FENCING

## A POINT OF VIEW

It is interesting to note that according to the Hungarians the new President of the FIE, Miguel de Capriles, is well qualified but faces a difficult task because he is an American and thinks as an American. We quote from The Hungarian Fencing News:

"The FIE leaves Europe, the Europe that established fencing and still holds the great majority of spiritual and physical strength of this sport. The FIE moves to the USA and the American Miguel de Capriles will be its president, and his brother Jose its deputy-president. M. de Capriles was an excellent fencer and jury-member; he is a fencing expert and his intelligence and understanding of people is far above average. He now turns his full ambition and good will to popularize fencing on the American continent and to lead International fencing in a good direction—to raise its standards, and to bring diversified interests into a common denominator in order to help the peaceful development of fencing. His task is not easy for the simple reason that he is an American and he thinks in American ways, but we still hope that he will fulfill the confidence entrusted to him."



## NEW ELECTRIC MACHINE

The latest addition to foil and epee equipment is the Soudet "Statronic Touch Indicator." Aluminum is used throughout the machine which weighs only 8 lbs. and measures 10"x8"x5". It uses house current or batteries and has a built-in transistorized inverter. Lights on the box indicate shortages in weapons, reels and body cords. The famous French manufacturer states it conforms to all FIE regulations. An interesting feature is the automatic reset. In informal boutting fencers no longer have to go to the machine after each touch — the lights and buzzer go off and the machine is reset automatically at the selected time lapse.

## AFLA 1960-61 MEMBERSHIPS

The AFLA membership drive for 1961-62 is gaining momentum. Last year's figures point up the need for all of us to help build up our Division. We hope to be able to publish a similar roster before the Nationals showing a substantial increase and all Divisions reporting.

(A-Active; C-Collegiate; S-Student; a-Associate; L-Life)

Division	A	C	S	a	L	Total
Arizona	14	11	30	1	-	56
Border	6	5	6	-	-	17
Central Florida	38	2	21	6	-	67
Central Illinois	2	20	19	-	-	41
Colorado	25	35	-	-	-	60
Columbus	3	12	1	1	-	17
Connecticut	29	34	1	-	-	64
Delaware	6	-	5	-	-	11
Florida	7	1	-	-	-	8
Georgia	26	12	14	1	-	53
Gold Coast, Fla.	14	6	9	2	-	31
Gulf Coast, Tex.	23	29	7	-	-	59
Harrisburg	(No Report)					
Hudson-Berkshire	8	-	1	-	-	9
Illinois	21	15	29	9	1	75
Indianapolis	6	2	17	1	-	26
Inland Empire	(No Report)					
Iowa	6	20	9	3	-	38
Kansas	10	10	2	-	-	22
Kentucky	16	3	7	-	-	26
Long Island	17	1	8	3	-	29
Maryland	26	30	17	6	-	79
Metropolitan	89	78	100	27	16	310
Miami Valley	(No Report)					
Michigan	42	46	14	4	-	106
Mid-New York	(No Report)					
Minnesota	13	5	6	-	1	25
Nevada	11	-	-	-	-	11
New England	19	34	23	4	-	80
New Jersey	29	68	61	8	5	171
New Mexico	(No Report)					
No. California	64	30	30	7	-	131
No. Ohio	49	15	8	23	3	98
No. Texas	16	19	7	-	-	42
Oklahoma	25	5	4	-	-	34
Oregon	4	16	2	-	-	22
Philadelphia	25	30	48	3	2	108
Seattle	8	1	1	2	2	14
St. Louis	10	1	1	-	-	12
So. California	118	28	26	10	-	182
S. W. Ohio	17	3	2	3	-	25
Tennessee	5	-	-	-	-	5
Utah	(No Report)					
Washington, D. C.	22	7	3	-	1	33
Westchester	(No Report)					
Western N. Y.	22	30	65	18	2	137
Western Pa.	15	5	2	-	-	22
West Virginia	9	-	-	-	-	9
Wisconsin	15	17	21	-	1	54
Non-Divisional	2	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Total reported as of 9/1/61</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2421</b>

## WHY HAVE YOUR EYES ALONE CONTROL YOUR FENCING?

by Joseph Waffa

*Ed. Note — Mr. Waffa developed Olympic fencer Judy Goodrich and is now Fencing Master at the Salle d'Esgrime in Pittsburgh. He also is instructor in fencing and sensory training at the Pittsburgh Guild for the Blind.*

In addition to our sight we have seventeen other faculties of perception which, if properly developed and used, will enhance our conception of living. Nine of these we can use effectively in fencing. As sighted fencers we allow our sight to overpower and undermine the use of our other faculties, but there is no reason why we should not develop and use them to supplement our sense of sight and to improve our fencing.

1. Localization. Although we see and localize, we also probe with the blade—we beat, press, parry and bind. In all these and many other fencing movements sound and touch help us to keep correct distance, attack, defend and counter-attack. Success depends to a certain extent on the accuracy of localization.

2. Sound differentiation. Have you ever listened to the sound of the advance, the retreat, the lunge, the balestra or the fleche? Have you listened to the sound of the beat on your opponent's foible, middle of the blade or forte? Close your eyes. You will find that there are sound differentiations in every audible movement you make. Differentiation should help you to be more observant and to make necessary adjustments.

3. Obstacle preception. Sound waves and pressures on parts of the body give us this sense. In fencing we feel it more when a fleche is used and during infighting. If you were to fence with a blindfold and trained yourself to listen and feel intently you could sidestep a fleche or break away successfully from an infighting situation.

4. Sense of balance. The vestibular sense is developed in favor of fencing during the lesson. It is carried on in bouting through muscular control and coordination. Balance is maintained by pointing the front foot toward your opponent, the knees in line with the toes, keeping the hind foot flat on the floor when in the lunge, using the back arm properly while lunging and recovering etc. Without this vestibular sense our fencing would be a comedy of errors.

5. Touch. We use the sense of touch through the blade in probing, in the beat, the press, the envelopment, etc. These directly give

us our opponent's position and the location of his weapon in space.

6. Kinesthetic sense. Coaches insist that fencers point their front toes toward their opponents. There is reason for this. Try to stand on guard with your front toes pointing either to the right or to the left, then close your eyes and advance or retreat 12 to 15 feet. You'll find that you veer in the direction of your front toes on the advance, or the direction of your front heel on the retreat. In fencing foil and epee, the blade should be an extension of the forearm. If you follow these rules your kinesthetic sense will ensure you of these correct positions while you are busy acting or reacting. It is the sense which gives our body parts location and position.

7. Motor memory. This is responsible for the execution of defensive and offensive movements. It is the result of constant drilling in the various fencing movements. It is important to take regular lessons from your coach and to shadow fence against a wall before you continue your practice with partners. To act offensively or react defensively fencers have to think quickly during combat. Success depends on the extent and correctness to which they have developed and trained their sense of muscle or motor memory.

8. Central sense. This is the clearing house sense. It correlates all the information supplied to us by the other senses so that we can act or react correctly and efficiently during the bout.

9. Visualization. Fencers sit on the sidelines during a tournament, waiting to be called up to fence. They watch the fencing of their opponents, comparing previous experiences with what they are observing. They plan their strategy for when they cross blades with the ones they are watching. This is visualization, a key to the solution of fencing problems and technique by correlating information into useful function.

Fencers must learn to relax on the strip. Relaxation develops good posture and fencing form. It facilitates the efficient use of these senses and faculties.

It is now fitting to present the means by which we can train our outstanding fencers to supplement their sight with the active use of these senses. The most effective way is for the fencing masters to give their advanced

(Continued on Col. 2 of Page 20)

# DIVISIONAL

## Arizona

by Betty Jean Brodersen

**Epee:** 1. Derewood Bible; 2. Raymond Yurcik; 3. Stanley Klimek.

**Sabre:** 1. Derewood Bible; 2. Raymond Yurcik; 3. Edward Emmons.

## Central Florida

by James E. Law

Our divisional championships resulted as follows:

**Women:** 1. Edna Kehoe; 2. Sandra Edwards; 3. Susan Besko.

**Foil:** 1. Robert Colwell; 2. James Vaughn; 3. John Shinner.

**Sabre:** 1. John Jordan; 2. Robert Colwell; 3. Elmer Woolen.

**Epee:** Richard Bennett; 2. William Fox; 3. John Jordan.

The first 1961-62 season event was an open foil: Men: 1. Bob Colwell; 2. John Skinner; 3. Bill Fox.

**Women:** 1. Edna Kehoe; 2. Sandra Edwards; 3. Hazel Skinner.

## Colorado

by Major Richard Bowman

**Uncl. Foil:** 1. Thomas Solan, Ent. Sabres; 2. Charles Wakefield, Denver FC; 3. Richard Hutson, Colorado U.

**Uncl. Epee:** 1. Alexander Davidonis, Colorado U; 2. Daniel Lincoln, Colorado U; 3. John Lindsay, Denver FC.

**Women's Uncl.:** 1. Iris Lucero, Denver FC; 2. Beatrice Petersen, Colorado U; 3. Kay Inghram, Colorado U.

**Women's Open:** 1. Iris Lucero, Denver FC; 2. Beatrice Petersen, Colorado U; 3. Judith Hutson, Colorado U.

**Foil Championship:** 1. Roger Clayton, Denver FC; 2. Maj. F. A. Gillen, AFA; 3. Cadet W. L. Ebert, AFA.

**Epee Championship:** 1. Maj. R. C. Bowman, AFA; 2. Cadet C. L. Turner, AFA; 3. Paul Mortenson, Denver FC.

**Sabre Championship:** 1. Cadet J. J. Wolcott, AFA; 2. Maj. F. A. Gillen, AFA; 3. Sgt. J. Satomayer, Ent. Sabres.

**Women's Championship:** 1. Iris Lucero, Denver FC; 2. Mary Anderson, Ent. Sabres; 3. Kay Hadwin, Denver FC.

**Foil Team Championship** won by Denver FC (Clayton, Mortenson, Wakefield).

**Epee Team Championship** won by Denver FC (Clayton, Mortenson, Lindsay).

**Sabre Team Championship** won by A. F. Academy (Wolcott, Keppen, Prenz).

**Women's Team Championship** won by Denver FC (Lucero, Hadwin, Thompson).

## Florida Gold Coast

by Sara J. McCue

Playground instructors were given a sixteen week course on fencing by Maestro Anthony Greco, with the assistance of several senior fencers. This was a cooperative enterprise between the Division and the Superintendent of Women's Recreation for the City of Miami, Miss Mary Bow. During the summer the playground instructors in turn taught youngsters how to fence and on August 12 at Shenandoah Park the first teenage tournament was held with the following results:

**Girls:** 1. Carol Rea; 2. Barbara Baker; 3. Aida Maergerle.

**Boys:** 1. Don McCammon; 2. Larry Barket; 3. Carl Paternastro.

Our divisional championships resulted as follows:

**Women:** 1. Loretta Kushner, Florio; 2. Sara McCue, Unatt.; 3. Nancy Gore, de Tuscan.

**Foil:** 1. Mac Lombard, Florio; 2. Sy Eisenfeld, de Tuscan; 3. Jerry Finney, de Tuscan.

**Epee:** 1. Gerald Taines, de Tuscan; 2. Mac Lombard, Florio; 3. Sy Eisenfeld, de Tuscan.

**Sabre:** 1. Sy Eisenfeld, de Tuscan; 2. Gerald Taines, de Tuscan; 3. Jerry Finney, de Tuscan.

Maestros Joe Florio, Anthony Greco, Bela de Tuscan and Normaleen de Tuscan received plaques for their excellent service to fencing.

**Prep Foil:** 1. Barry Uricchio; 2. Jeff Bart; 3. Vincent Gonzalez.

**Women's Prep:** 1. Marty Saconchik; 2. Gail Webster; 3. Carol Spanivich.

## Georgia

by Margaret L. Jones

**Open Sabre:** 1. Richard Morenus; 2. Ewing Humphreys; 3. Robert Iantoni.

**Open Epee:** 1. Dr. Ira Dushoff; 2. Ewing Humphreys; 3. Richard Morenus.

**Women's Prep:** 1. Beth Wilson; 2. Ann Frazer; 3. Stuart Goldsmith.

**Prep Foil** (3-way fence-off): 1. Hayes, Hunter AF; 2. Iantoni, Atlanta Y; 3. Metz, Ga. Tech.

## Indiana

Our divisional champions are:

**Foil:** 1. T. Dwyer, Notre Dame; 2. R. Sweeney, Indiana U; 3. P. Merry, Culver MA.

**Epee:** 1. R. McKee, Culver MA; 2. Chase, Culver MA; 3. D. Gage, Horace Mann HS.

**Sabre:** 1. W. Holland, Indiana U; 2. W. Hathaway, Indiana U; 3. F. Coons, Ind. FC.

## Gulf Coast

by Edward Gause and Fred Sklar

The first International Invitation staged by the U. S. Modern Pentathlon Salle was held at Fort Sam Houston on May 13 and 14. The events were epee and women's foil and attracted entries from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and the North Texas and Gulf Coast Divisions.

A triple tie for first in the women's final of eight required a fence-off which again resulted in a tie, and on the count of touches Mrs. Marietta Towry (N. Texas) was first, Miss Rosa Del Moral (Mexico) second, and Mrs. Jean Thompson (Gulf Coast) third.

The epee attracted several South American pentathletes... Mexico's Capt. Antonio Almada's sharp lunges carried him through the final without a defeat while three U. S. pentathletes tied for second and placed as follows: Pesthy, Stoll, Sowell.

### Finalists

**Women:** Towry (Dallas); Del Moral (Mexico); Thompson (Texas City); Mrs. Charles Cunningham (Abilene); Mrs. Lisa Russell (San Antonio); Helen Keller (Dallas); Helen Gray (Dallas); Barbara Beery (Houston).

**Epee:** Almada (Mexico); Pesthy (US); Stoll (US); Sowell (US); Jackson (US); Kirkwood (US); Perexmier (Mexico); Rieva (Argentina); Salvio (Brazil).

### Other events:

**Women's Open:** 1. Betty Jean Kolenda; 2. Barbara Beery; 3. Pat Cloninger.

**Open Foil:** 1. Mike Fooks; 2. Robert Shelby; 3. Roger Melton.

**Women's Open:** 1. Jean Thompson, Bucs; 2. Mozelle Hampton, Texas; 3. Barbara Berry, HFC.

**Open Foil:** 1. Larry Weaver, HFC; 2. James Monroe, Ind.; 3. Ed Gause, Bucs.

Rice University, coached by Harold Van Buskirk, held an Invitation Intercollegiates with teams from Texas U, Texas Christian and University of Houston invited.

The foil team event consisted of a round-robin and was won by the host school by two touches after tying Texas U in total victories (16/11). The winners used Phelps, Lovett, Schroeck, Silverman and Pollard.

The individual foil resulted as follows: 1. Tinoco, Texas U; 2. Lovett, Rice U; 3. Handley, Texas U.

## Iowa

by Kathryn Staver

**Women's Unclass:** 1. Kathy Staver, Ames; 2. Lorraine French, ISU; 3. Jeanne Young, ISU.

**Unclass. Foil:** 1. Capt. W. Thomas, ISU; 2. Frank French, ISU; Mike Salz, Grinnell.

**Unclass. Epee:** 1. Frank French, ISU; 2. Gary Freed, ISU; 3. Ray Sorensen, ISU.

**Unclass. Sabre:** 1. Frank French, ISU; 2. Ray Sorensen, ISU; 3. Capt. W. Thomas, ISU.

**Women's Novice:** 1. Mary Seitz, Grinnell; 2. Mary Lombard, Grinnell.

**Novice Foil:** 1. Dave Abel, ISU; 2. Den Richards, Grinnell; 3. Gary Freed, ISU.

**Novice Epee:** 1. Mike Salz, Grinnell; 2. Dave Abel, ISU; 3. Ron Nash, ISU.

**Novice Sabre:** 1. Gary Freed, ISU; 2. Dave Abel, ISU; 3. Ron Brown, ISU.

## Jacksonville

by Norman Martin

Forty-six fencers from many parts of Florida participated in our first big tournament to increase interest in this area so that we may request an AFLA charter. Officers from other divisions have been most helpful and cooperative. The results were:

**Student Boys Foil:** 1. James Vaughan, PAL St. Petersburg; 2. Paul Bremer, Jacksonville FC; 3. Charles Fox, IS. Petersburg FC.

**Student Girls:** 1. Ginger Lane, PAL St. Petersburg; 2. Sally Palmer, PAL St. Pete; 3. Donna Piccari, PAL St. Pete.

**Prep Foil:** 1. Sam Goodfriend, Jacksonville FC; 2. Ralph Brooks, Ft. Walton Beach FC; 3. Alfred Grasso, Jacksonville FC.

**Women's Prep:** 1. Susan Brisko, St. Petersburg FC; 2. Joanne George, Jacksonville FC; 3. Shirley Brooks, Ft. Walton Beach FC.

## Maryland

by Richard F. Oles

**Prep Foil:** 1. Jim Smorsch, Towson FC; 2. Bruce Taubman, JCC; 3. Wade Horsey, IYFC.

**Outdoor Foil:** 1. Capt. Richard Steere, USN; 2. Harry Schafft, Wash. FC; 3. Dave Green, Martin FC.

A new club is being activated for the 1961-62 season: Tri-weapon FC, coached by Dick Oles who also coaches Johns Hopkins.

**Women's Open:** 1. Veronica Smith, DCFC; 2. Una Flynn, WFC; 3. Jane Burger, IYFC.

**Bachelor Foil:** 1. Bob Harder, Balcon FC; 2. John Herts, Rutgers; 3. Bob DeWick, Balcon FC.

**Open Epee:** 1. Harry Schafft, WFC; 2. Dick Oles, IYFC; 3. Dan Steinman, Cslsaz.

**Open Sabre:** 1. Lee Stanley, NFC; 2. Saul Johnson, WFC; 3. Dick Lee, USNA.

**Mixed Foil Team** won by Int'l YFC (Burger, Stanley).

**3-Weapon Team** won by Int'l YFC (Power, Oles, Stanley).

## Kentucky

by Paul Ross

The divisional championships resulted as follows:

- Sabre:** 1. Jim Iliff, Cincinnati FC; 2. Jerry Cartwright, FCL; 3. Carl Burge, L'ville Y.  
**Epee:** 1. Paul Ross, Lex FC; 2. Fr. Patrick O'Donnell, Cincinnati FC; 3. Francis Wolff, L'ville Y.  
**Foil (four-way fence-off):** 1. Scott Moore, Hunt; 2. John Gehant, FCL; 3. Francis Wolff, L'ville Y; 4. Paul Ross, Lex FC.  
**Women:** 1. Mary Gehant, FCL; 2. Barbara Grant, JCC; 3. Gigi Ivone, vonBoross.

## Long Island

by Alfred Bachner

- Open Epee:** 1. Mel Benjamin, B'klyn Poly; 2. Al Bachner, LI Swordsmen; 3. Herb Spector, Unatt.  
**Women's Open:** 1. Inge Edson; 2. Henrietta Tuttle; 3. Selma Satren.  
**Sabre Open:** 1. Herb Spector; 2. Al Bachner; 3. Bill Pardee.

## Metropolitan

by Bea Maviglia

- Foil 'B' (Lucia medals):** 1. Aubrey Seeman, FC; 2. Bill Whiteman, Santelli; 3. Carl Ware, Santelli.  
**Open Sabre (Murray medals):** 1. Mike Dasaro, NYAC; 2. Tibor Nyilas, NYAC; 3. George Worth, Unatt; Others—Pallaghy, Farber, Blum, Pariser, Keane.  
**Foil 'C' (Levis medals):** 1. Carl Ware, Santelli; 2. Jim Convin, FC; 3. Robert Gordon, Yale.  
**Women's 'C' (Chandler medals):** 1. Louise Neil, Saltus; 2. Paulette Singelakis, Paterson St; 3. Jay Reid, FDU.  
**College Freshman Foil (Castello medals):** 1. Marvin Grafton, NYU; 2. Carl Ware, Community College; 3. Marvin Garovoy, NYU; Others—Young, McKie, Wolfe, Lerman, Fensterstock.  
**Women's A-B (Dow medals):** 1. Anne Drungis, Santelli; 2. Madeline Dalton, FC; 3. Denise O'Connor, Unatt; Others—Schoeck, Brill, Sokol, Schwabe, Parker.  
**Sabre 'C' (Castello medals):** 1. Stephen Krupansky, Santelli; 2. Al White, NYAC; 3. Bob Waltz, NYU.  
**Epee 'C' (Deladrier medals):** 1. Jay Parker, NYAC; 2. Robert Bernard, FC; 3. Richard Coll, LI Swordsmen.

## Washington, D. C.

by Virginia Crawford

- Epee Championship:** 1. Daniel Lyons, DCFC; 2. George Jacoby, DCFC; 3. Harry Schafft, WFC  
**Sabre Unclass:** 1. Jack Michaelson, DCFC; 2. Col. Maurice Kaiser, WFC; 3. Robert Munson, DCFC  
**Women Unclass:** 1. Barton Heaps, Balto. IY; 2. Veronica Smith, DCFC; 3. Una Flynn, WFC

## New Jersey

by Mary Ellen Flynn

- Women's Prep:** 1. Carol Simpson, B'klyn C; 2. Sonia Kuchnick, Montclair St; 3. Patricia Webster, Montclair St.  
**Foil 'B':** 1. James Adams, Princeton; 2. Frank Anger, Princeton; 3. Charles Roth, Paterson St.  
**Epee Team 'B'** won by F.C. of New Jersey (Bernstein, Byrnes, D'Ambola)  
**Women's Novice:** 1. Virginia O'Reilly, FDU; 2. Ellen Gotlieb, Lucia; 3. Jane Tainow, Paterson St.  
**Mixed Doubles Team** won by Jane Dardia and Aubrey Seeman.  
**Open Epee:** 1. Irwin Bernstein, FC of NJ; 2. Robert Chapman, Princeton; 3. Regis King, NYAC.  
**Open Foil:** 1. James Adams, Princeton; 2. Rocco Feravolo, Unatt; 3. Frank Anger, Princeton.  
**Women's N.J. Intercollegiate:** 1. Paulette Singelakis, Paterson St; 2. Paula Baron, Paterson St; 3. Madeline Miyamoto, FDU.  
**Open Sabre:** 1. Al White, NYAC; 2. George Bonnici, Unatt; 3. Arthur Spingarn, NYAC.  
**Women's Open:** 1. Ann Drungis, Santelli; 2. Denise O'Connor, Unatt; 3. Dorothy Pohlman, Paterson St.  
**Women's State Championship:** 1. Denise O'Connor, Unatt; 2. Paulette Singelakis, Paterson St; 3. Madeline Miyamoto, FDU.  
**Foil State Championship:** 1. James Adams, Princeton; 2. Irwin Bernstein, FC of NJ; 3. Frank Anger, Princeton.  
**Epee State Championship:** 1. Frank Anger, Princeton; 2. Joseph Byrnes, FC of NJ; 3. A. John Geraci, FC of NJ.

## Philadelphia

by Elizabeth Wheeler

All the medals in our divisional championships were won by Salle Csiszar:

- Foil:** 1. M. Davis; 2. L. Anastasi; 3. D. Micahnik  
**Epee:** 1. L. Anastasi; 2. R. Jones; 3. D. Mounce  
**Sabre:** 1. P. Makler; 2. T. Balla; 3. T. Freilich  
**Women:** 1. V. Wade; 2. C. Hespeneida; 3. J. Crawford  
**3-Weapon:** 1. M. Davis; 2. L. Anastasi; 3. D. Micahnik

## Western N. Y.

by Sylvia Zielinski

Our Division Championships resulted as follows:

- Women:** 1. Lydien Gibbs; 2. Marcia Richmond; 3. Gloria Schick.  
**Foil:** 1. Arthur Plouffe; 2. William Streeter; 3. John Capurso.  
**Epee:** 1. Robert Fishman; 2. John Capurso; 3. Arthur Plouffe.  
**Sabre:** 1. William Streeter; 2. Arthur Plouffe; 3. Anthony Buzzelli.



## Southern California

by Fred Linkmeyer

**L.A. Open Epee:** 1. Leslie Bleamaster, Unatt; 2. Lee Rombeau, LAFC; 3. Halton Arp, Faulkner.

**Open Foil:** 1. Halton Arp, Faulkner; 2. Don Benge, Faulkner; 3. Albert Davis, Unatt.

**Open Epee:** 1. Leslie Bleamaster, Unatt; 2. Phil McLennon, Faulkner; 3. Don Benge, Faulkner.

**Open Epee Team** won by the Los Angeles AC (Barden, Linkmeyer, Rice).

**Open Sabre:** 1. Albert Davis, Unatt; 2. Attila Keresztes, LAAC; 3. Paul Etter, Vince.

**Senior Epee:** 1. Steve Barden, LAAC; 2. Halton Arp, Faulkner; 3. Carl Millette, Vince.

**Senior Sabre:** 1. Albert Davis, Unatt; 2. Fred Rayser, LAAC; 3. Carl Millette, Vince.

**Women's L.A. Open:** 1. Jan Romary, LAFA; 2. Alice Gerakin, Faulkner; 3. Bettie Drago, Faulkner.

**Women's Open:** 1. Maxine Mitchell, LAFC; 2. Jan Romary, LAFA; 3. Alice Gerakin, Faulkner.

**Sabre Team** won by Los Angeles AC (Lamp, Keresztes, Rayser)

**Bowen Handicap:** 1. Albert Davis, Unatt; 2. Clayton Williams, Unatt; 3. Jay Drosin, LAFC

**Greco 3-Weapon:** 1. Halton Arp, Faulkner; 2. Carl Millette, Vince; 3. Phil McLennon, Faulkner

**4-Weapon Team** won by Los Angeles AC (Rayser, Lamp, Keresztes, Jeannie Mori)

**3-Weapon Team** won by Faulkner (Arp, Benge, McLennon)

**Women's Open Team** won by Faulkner (Drago, Linkmeyer, Gerakin)

**Douglas Handicap:** 1. Bette Drago, Faulkner; 2. Sachie Kagawa, LAFA; 3. Meredith Steinhauser, LAFA

**4-Women Team** won by Faulkner (Drago, Linkmeyer, Gerakin, Downs)



## Seattle

by Jean Robeson

The Seafair International Tournament was held July 29-30 at the Washington AC and resulted as follows:

**Women's Open:** 1. Lillian Zahn, Vancouver; 2. Patricia Hayes, Seattle; 3. Jean Robeson, Seattle.

**Open Foil:** 1. Harry Jensen, Richland; 2. Don Naylor, Portland; 3. Peter Bakonyi, Vancouver.

**Open Epee:** 1. Peter Bakonyi, Vancouver; 2. Bob Miller, Seattle; 3. Russell Westburg, Seattle.

**Open Sabre:** 1. Harry Jensen, Richland; 2. Don Polinsky, Seattle; 3. Fred Worden, Seattle.

**Foil Team** won by Portland (Naylor, Senior, Longworth).

**Women's Team** won by Seattle (Robeson, DuPen, Hayes).

Our Northwest International Tournament resulted as follows:

**Sabre:** 1. Don Lazlo, Calgary; 2. Harry Jensen, Sunnyside; 3. Guyla Kiss, Vancouver.

**Foil:** 1. Francois Freyvogel, Vancouver; 2. Don Lazlo, Calgary; 3. Harry Jensen, Sunnyside.

**Epee:** 1. Peter Bakonyi, Vancouver; 2. Harry Jensen, Sunnyside; 3. Bob Miller, Seattle.

**Women:** 1. Linda Ochs, Vancouver; 2. Lillian Zahn, Vancouver; 3. Novelle Du Pen, Seattle.

**Women's Team** won by Seattle (Ballinger, Du Pen, Vukov).

## Southwest Ohio

by Chris Story

Fence-offs were needed to decide our foil and women's championships. The results:

**Women:** 1. Gigi Ivone, vonBoross; 2. Sheryl Emhoff, vonBoross; 3. Chris Story, vonBoross.

**Foil:** 1. James Iliff, Cincinnati FC; 2. James Gilchrist, Cincinnati FC; 3. John Crane, Cincinnati FC.

**Epee:** 1. Cliff Story, vonBoross; 2. James Iliff, Cincinnati FC; 3. Reuben Muns, GEEAA.

**Sabre:** 1. James Gilchrist, Cincinnati FC; 2. James Iliff, Cincinnati FC; 3. Scott Moore, vonBoross.

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- for both foil and epee -

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## BUZZER BOXES FOR FOIL AND EPEE

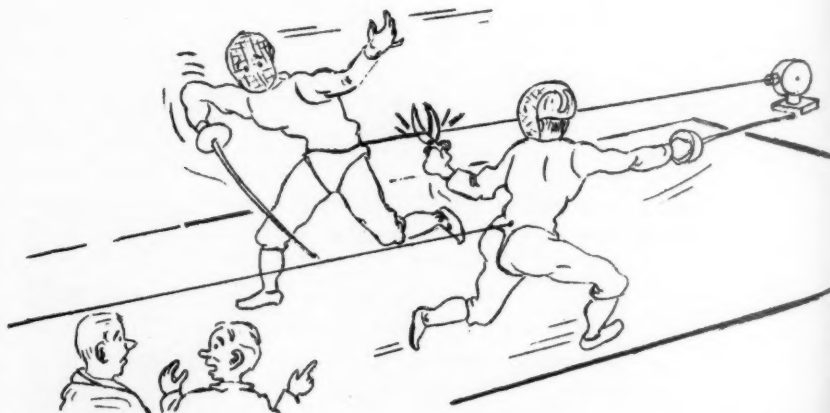
by George Leon

The first problem that faces the fencer who is new to electric scoring is the feel of the point — how much push is necessary to register and make the touch official. There is too the psychological factor of equipment which very often has not become familiar enough: wires, connectors, body cords. To all of these troublesome additions, the fencer must become acclimated before he can concentrate on winning. The obvious solution is the use of the full-fledged scoring machine during practice sessions. Since most clubs cannot afford more than one, this means only a few fencers can get any amount of use of the machine during an evening of fencing.

I felt that there should be a substitute that would at least indicate if a touch had been made. After some experiments in that direction I found that some years ago there was developed a small box containing a buzzer that was set off by batteries when the touch was scored. It hung on the fencer's belt and was connected to the weapon by a body cord. For some reason or another

it had proved unsatisfactory. Discussing this with Leon Wortman, an expert on electric fencing, I found that he had worked out improved circuitry for the boxes. Furthermore, each buzzer box could be used for both foil and epee. Having built several of these for members of my club, I found that they stood up over long periods of time, and that during the hot spell in August the humidity did not affect the working of the buzzers. They proved remarkably effective even for the seasoned veterans for practice sessions. Incidentally, they come in very handy for the fencer who has an opponent during the practice sessions who invariably feels that his touches land — that yours are always "passe". This brings the moment of truth a little closer to home.

As a result of my experiments I have a limited supply of these foil-epee buzzer boxes available and fencers who are interested in obtaining one can contact the writer at 312 West 82 Street, New York 24, New York. The cost would be \$12.00 post paid in the United States.



(From Oklahoma 'Riposte')

Claude Weakley

**HE'S OFTEN WIDE ON HIS FLECHE — BUT WATCH HOW HE  
TAKES CARE OF THE RIPOSTE.**



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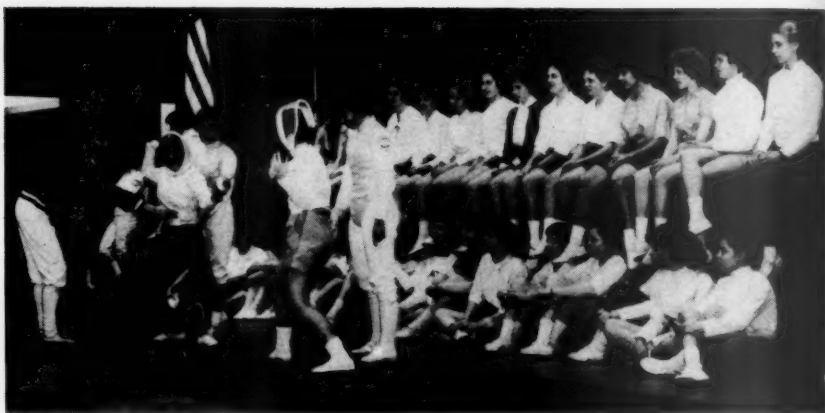
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AMERICAN FENCING

Page Seventeen



## FENCING CLINIC

Thirty-two girls from six Bergen County New Jersey high schools, and their physical education instructors, participated in the first fencing clinic sponsored by Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck.

Tentative plans are now being made to inaugurate a high school fencing league in the area. Also, as an outgrowth of this session, plans were formulated to hold a special fencing clinic for all women physical education instructors in the State of New Jersey.

During the clinic, the 10th, 11th and 12th grade girls first participated in the calisthenic routines used by the FDU team. Then, FDU coach Evelyn Terhune demonstrated the basic movements of fencing to the group. Within minutes, all were getting on guard, advancing, lunging and recovering.

Following the mass drill, twelve members of FDU's varsity, junior varsity and freshmen teams each took two or three girls and gave individual lessons.

The response to this clinic was wonderful. In Glen Rock, each girls' gym class held during the week following were treated to fencing demonstrations by the girls who attended; in Leonia, an active club of 14 girls is underway; Teaneck plans to budget funds for fencing.

In view of the response to this first session, additional group lessons are planned.

Evelyn Terhune

## HALBERSTADT SABRE

This annual event was fenced on August 12 and 13 and was won by Helmut Resch, former sabre champion of Austria. The other medalists, in order, were: Stephen Nagy, unattached; Jack Baker, Pannonia AC; Col. Laurence Brownlee, LAH; Daniel De La O, and Wayne Collins, both of Halberstadt School of Fencing.

## STEVENS SWORD CLUB

Stevens Tech, on whose campus fencing began as a club in 1889, celebrated a successful 1960 season by establishing a Sword Club patterned after Columbia's Rapier Club. According to coach Cliff Kirmss, the purpose is to develop interest and support among the alumni.

## Re: Charles Steinhardt

"American fencing has lost a fine fencer, a great sportsman and a good friend. Major Steinhardt won our International Foil Trophy in 1960. His fine fencing, outstandingly fine sportsmanship and happy personality will be remembered here for many years.

'When the One Great Scorer comes to write against your name—

He marks—not that you won or lost—but how you played the game.'

"May we express to Mrs. Steinhardt and to the AFLA the sincere sympathy of the Ontario Fencers' Association."

(Mrs.) Jessie Lightwood,  
Secretary, OFA

## SOME ADVICE FOR BEGINNER INSTRUCTORS

by Bela Csajaghy

It is generally known that the training of fencing instructors is not organized in our country. The majority of instructors are enthusiastic older amateurs who because of their fondness for fencing organize small groups and transmit their knowledge. I have no doubt that some new ones began giving fencing instruction this September.

With this short article I would like to be of help in their enthusiastic work.

According to my experience the greatest difficulty for a beginner instructor is to determine the best order in which to teach the basic elements in fencing and specific fencing actions. Most books specializing in fencing, in order to avoid repetitions, are not set up in logical order and thus are confusing to the beginner instructor who never learned how to teach. The majority of new teachers are able to demonstrate the fencing movements and thus, depending on their pedagogic sense, are able to teach more or less successfully. But after teaching the simplest movements they do not know what they must teach next in order.

I will enumerate the fencing movements and fencing actions as they should be taught in logical order so as to avoid being repetitious and to enable the pupil to progress more easily to the exercises of a higher grade.

I have taken foil fencing as a basis and have assumed that a description or explanation of each exercise is not necessary. Such descriptive material may be found in any book on fencing.

**Note:** While teaching each exercise, one must teach the fencing rules where applicable.

(1-6 do not require a foil)

1. Position of Attention
2. On Guard
3. Advance
4. Retreat
5. Lunge and Recover
6. The Positions of the Hand
7. The Foil (description and manner of holding)
8. The Salute
9. On Guard with Foil
10. Foil Guard Positions or Invitations
11. The Foil Target
12. Straight Thrust with Lunge
13. Advance and Lunge (Patinando)
14. Jump Forward and Lunge (Ballestra)
15. Change of Guard Line or Invitation
16. Advance or Retreat with Change of Invitation
17. The Simple Parries
18. Repostes
19. Thrust and Parry the Riposte
20. Straight Thrust with Advance and Lunge
21. Thrust, Parry and Counter-Riposte
22. Simple Parries with a Retreat, and Riposte
23. The Fencing Lines
24. Engagements
25. Disengagements
26. The Point in Line
27. Blade Attacks: the Beat; the Bind
28. Parries of Blade Attacks
29. Disengagements in Time
30. Change of Engagements
31. Simple Feints
32. Pressures of the Blade
33. Half Counter Parries, with Riposte
34. Counter Parries, with Riposte
35. Counter Disengages
36. Counter Feints
37. Change Beats and Binds
38. Attack-Parry exercises
39. Attack of Second Intention
40. Introduction to Bout
41. Rules and Purpose of Fencing Practice
42. Competition strategy

From the above are missing some actions which, though spectacular, jeopardize the discipline so necessary to the beginner. For example, the Cut-over, the Stop or Time Thrusts, and the Fleche.

Absolute beginners should first be taught in groups, as this will give each pupil more time to learn each exercise. It is best to first explain, then demonstrate each movement before calling for its execution. Where necessary, the exercise should be divided into parts. Practice each part separately in a fixed rhythm, then put the parts together and practice the entire exercise slowly, increasing the tempo as you go along.

Explanations should be brief. Do not try to correct all mistakes at once—take them one at a time—but do not tolerate a faulty movement without comment. Frequent demonstration is better than oral explanation.

Exercises should be made from a fixed position at the beginning, but once the movement has been learned, they should be practiced and coordinated with footwork.

(Continued on next page)

The pupil should be trained from the beginning to be alert and to react. As soon as a fair mechanical knowledge is developed, he should be made to react to change of direction of riposte or parry, to the opening or closing of distance. A pupil trained in this way will be more flexible and quick to respond in the free fencing. The frequent change of practice distance in each exercise will enable the pupil to feel and learn which is the most suitable distance for best results in a particular action.

I suggest a teaching plan of a few exercises for each lesson, thus avoiding both dull repetition and confusion. If you try to congest too much into one lesson, you will not get good results.

Every lesson should be divided into three parts: the first part could well consist of a short repetition of the movements learned in the previous lesson; the second and main part of the lesson should be to develop one or two advanced actions or to perfect and accelerate a previous exercise by presenting it under more difficult conditions; the last part of the lesson should consist of a few slowed up but perfectly executed simple movements. Naturally, pupils should do warming

up exercises individually or in groups before taking a lesson.

I hope that this brief article will contribute to easing the difficult work of the beginner instructor. The best solution, however, would be to place the training of fencing instructors on a professional and institutional footing. I hope the problem will be solved in the near future, but in the meantime I wish very successful results to every new instructor.

(Continued from Page 11)

fencers (Class A or B) an occasional lesson with the pupil blindfolded. Seven years ago a young lady who competed in the 1956 and 1960 Olympic Games was given an occasional 20-minutes lesson while blindfolded. Her fencing movements, whether on attack or defense, were executed with machine-like precision in beautiful form with good synchronization. It is believed that such lessons, properly given, will develop the use of these senses. Combined with sight it is hoped they will make our Olympic fencers more effective.

Coaches and fencers should stop and think. It is hoped that some will advance opinions and theories for discussion and analysis.

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## ALORS! ALORS!

As the alternate captain of the capsule U.S. Fencing Team, I thought the members of the AFLA would be interested in a report on a meeting of the "Chefs de Delegation" which took place in Turin during the World Fencing Championships this past July.

I came as an observer by appointment of our retiring president, Mr. Donald Thompson. The meeting was being conducted by Jose de Capriles, Deputy President of the F.I.E.

I consider this experience a treat because Jose was conducting the meeting in French. Anyone familiar with his precise and facile handling of a meeting of the National Board of Governor would have rejoiced to hear Jose's halting, imperfect and labored attempt to express himself in the language of diplomacy. I think we all enjoy seeing the seemingly imperturbable perturbed.

Since "la fraincaise a la Jose" was the most easily understood by me, it was unquestionably the poorest French spoken by any of the distinguished international group of dele-

gates. I arrive at this conclusion logically, as I had a little more difficulty understanding the better French of the Germans, Poles, English, etc., but was at a complete loss when the French delegate spoke. One might call this the "Law of Inverse Comprehensibility of Fluency."

After a discussion relating to the dates for future World Championships, there was scheduled a report by the Japanese delegate on the progress of Japan in arranging for the fencing events in the 1954 Olympics. However, as he spoke only Japanese and there was no Japanese-French interpreter available, it was first necessary to translate to Italian and then to French. This was a very cumbersome method to say the least, and as liquid refreshments (alcoholic in content) were being served gratuitously at this time the meeting disintegrated into a multilingual Babel until Jose brought everyone to order with his forceful cries of "Alors! Alors!", adjourning the meeting and ending a delightful experience.

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